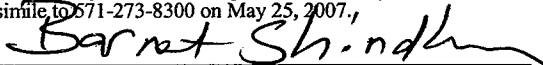
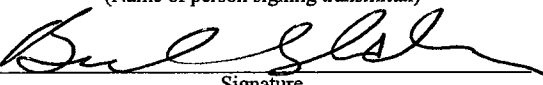


**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Shigeyoshi Hirashima, et al.  
Serial No. : 09/894,689  
Filed : June 27, 2001  
For : CONNECTION APPARATUS FOR CONNECTING A  
SOURCE OVER A NETWORK TO A PREDETERMINED  
DESTINATION, CONNECTING METHOD, AND STORAGE  
MEDIUM FOR STORING COMPUTER-READABLE  
PROGRAM HAVING CONNECTING FUNCTIONS (AS  
AMENDED)  
Examiner : Poon, King Y.  
Art Unit : 2625  
Confirmation No. : 6422

745 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10151

<b><u>CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE</u></b>
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to 571-273-8300 on May 25, 2007.

(Name of person signing transmittal)

Signature
May 25, 2007
Date of Signature

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed on March 27, 2007, having a three-month statutory period for response set to expire on June 27, 2007, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 9 of this paper.